

# Southern California Water Committee, Inc.

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Post-it Fax Note	7671	Date 12/14	# of pages 2
To	Lester Snow	From	SCWC
Co./Dept.		Co.	
Phone #		Phone #	
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December 14, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director

CALFED Bay-Delta Program

1416 Ninth Street

Sacramento, California 95814

## RE: Comments on Draft Phase II Report (Revision Dated December 9)

Dear Lester:

With the formal announcement of CALFED's draft Phase II Report just days ahead, the Southern California Water Committee commends the direction of the most recent version of CALFED's Phase II Report.

In this latest draft, several areas of vital and essential importance to the business community in Southern California are addressed and we urge you to continue their inclusions in the final Phase II Report.

- ▶ **Bundling of Projects.** The Water Committee firmly supports packaging projects that cut across all the CALFED program elements so that goals for water quality, water supply reliability and ecosystem restoration are met simultaneously. By bundling projects together, CALFED's goal of a balanced solution is assured.
- ▶ **Programmatic Findings on Storage.** Storage must be a part of the long term CALFED Program. All reasonable analyses of future water supply conclude that additional storage will be needed to manage California's water resources. Feasibility studies and environmental assessments for prospective off-stream reservoirs identified in the Draft EIR/EIS should be undertaken immediately. At the outset of Stage One, a programmatic 404 permit must be granted for surface storage.
- ▶ **Implementing Agreements.** Legal agreements that are enforceable are a key assurance mechanism. We need more than good faith that the Bay Delta solution will benefit all segments and regions of California.
- ▶ **Long Term Goals for Water Quality.** The CALFED solution must improve water quality to acceptable levels, including complying with water quality standards. It is absolutely critical to the 16 million people living south of the Delta that long term objectives for Bromides and organic carbons be set in the Phase II Report. Specific performance standards on water quality is essential to this region.

*A cooperative effort of business, government, water agencies, agriculture, and public interests.*

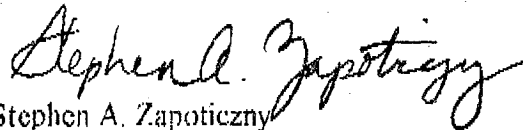
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The Southern California Water Committee recognizes that CALFED is attempting to develop solutions that address multiple interests. The December 9 draft Phase II Report moves significantly closer to meeting solving Southern California's needs. However, **it is crucial that the Phase II Report contain a delineated decision point for Stage One.**

We must have a specified point in time, we believe at the end of four years, when optimal through-Delta improvements are evaluated for their effectiveness in meeting a defined set of performance standards, including for ecosystem, water quality and water supply reliability and, if through-Delta improvements alone cannot meet the performance standards, then an appropriately sized isolated conveyance system must be implemented.

On behalf of the Southern California Water Committee, I look forward to continuing our discussions of the issues.

Very truly yours,



Stephen A. Zapotoczny  
Chairman  
Southern California Water Committee

cc: The Honorable Bruce Babbitt  
The Honorable Gray Davis  
The Honorable Pete Wilson  
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
The Honorable Barbara Boxer

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